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The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" If any amounts have been paid, I shall ask the Registrar to consider the question of returning them."

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Electricity

Proposal for the establishment of a central electric generating scheme for Vizagapatam.

706 *Q.*—The Zamindar of Kirlampudi: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are contemplating a central electric generating scheme for Vizagapatam; if so, whether it is a hydraulic or a thermal scheme;

(*b*) whether they have investigated the scheme and prepared plans for the same; and

(*c*) if so, what the expenditure incurred for that purpose is?

A.—(*a*) Yes. It is a thermal scheme.

(*b*) Yes. Report and preliminary plans have been prepared.

(*c*) The work was not carried out by a staff specially engaged for the purpose but was attended to by the ordinary staff of the Electricity department. It is not therefore possible to state the actual expenditure incurred on the work. A sum of Rs. 430 has been incurred by way of travelling allowances of the officers who carried out field investigation.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* POSTPONEMENT OF THE ELECTION OF PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH KANARA DISTRICT BOARD.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" Sir, under Standing Order No. 19, I move—

' *that the business of the House be adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, to wit, the action of the Government postponing the election of the President of the District Board of South Kanara.*' "

Mr. Ahmed Meeran :—" I second it."

The Hon. the President :—" May I ask the hon. Member who has moved this how the motion which was not urgent last week has come to be urgent this week? "

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Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" The point is this, Sir. The postponement of the election of the president has given rise to a lot of complications. It cannot be said that there is no district board functioning in South Kanara. There is a district board and its members are entitled to the rights and duties attached to them as members of the district board, and they have consequently tried to use those rights and liabilities which fall to them. For instance, they have sent a requisition to the *ex officio* President, asking him to convene a meeting for the election of the president. The Collector, who is the *ex officio* President, has refused to accede to the request. So, under Schedule II of the Local Boards Act, the members have called for a meeting themselves. We do not know what is to happen. I hear that the meeting is coming off on the 12th or 13th instant. Nobody knows where the district board members stand exactly. The other day it was not because it was not urgent that it was not pressed, but because I found that Dr. Subbarayan had given notice of a short notice question on this subject and it was a motion under the Standing Orders wherein no censure was involved. But I now move for adjournment under Standing Order No. 19, which stands quite on a different footing and is a motion involving censure. I may also say that Dr. Subbarayan's short notice question has not been accepted."

* The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" Sir, the incidents which the hon. Member has just mentioned occurred before the meeting of this Council, and if it is the opinion of the hon. Member that the matter is urgent, he ought to have brought it even during the first few days of the sitting of the Council. A number of questions on this subject have been received, and two of them have been already answered, and the others will be answered in the course of this sitting. The hon. Member first gave notice of one motion, and he has made some alteration subsequently. I submit, Sir, that the matter is neither urgent nor definite. On these grounds, I wish to object to the motion."

Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" Was not the reply of the Collector received only a few days back? "

* The Hon. the President:—" I think the motion is in order. I wish to know whether any hon. Member objects to the motion."

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I have taken objection, Sir."

The Hon. the President:—" Those hon. Members who support the motion will rise in their places. (After a count.) The required number of Members have not risen in their places. So, leave is not given to the motion."

III.—BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS CITY MUNICIPAL ACT, 1919, FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES (BILL No. 11 OF 1934)—*cont.*

* The Hon. the President:—" The House will continue the consideration of the City Municipal Act amending Bill."